

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for increasing plasma glutamine concentration in a stressed mammal, the method comprising the step of administering to the stressed mammal a nutritional composition including a protein source having at least 80% by weight of a component selected chosen from the group consisting of whey protein, and a protein mixture which simulates the amino acid profile of whey protein consisting of approximately 80% to about 90% by weight of casein, approximately 0.5% to about 2% by weight of isoleucine, about 2% to about 8% by weight of leucine, about 1% to about 5% by weight of cysteine, and about 1% to about 5% by weight of lysine.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method for increasing muscle glutamine concentrations in a mammal, the method comprising the step of administering to the mammal a nutritional composition including a protein source having at least 80% by weight of a component selected chosen from the group consisting of whey protein, and a protein mixture which simulates the amino acid profile of whey protein consisting of approximately 80% to about 90% by weight of casein, approximately 0.5% to about 2% by weight of isoleucine, about 2% to about 8% by weight of leucine, about 1% to about 5% by weight of cysteine, and about 1% to about 5% by weight of lysine.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method for providing glutamine to a mammal suffering from injured, diseased or under-developed intestines, the method comprising the step of administering to the mammal a nutritional composition including a protein source having at least 80% by weight of a component selected chosen from the group consisting of whey protein, and protein mixture which simulates the amino acid profile of whey protein consisting of approximately 80% to about 90% by weight of casein, approximately 0.5% to about 2% by weight of isoleucine, about 2% to about 8% by weight of leucine, about 1% to about 5% by weight of cysteine, and about 1% to about 5% by weight of lysine.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of Claim 3 wherein the mammal is a pre-term infant having an under-developed intestine.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of Claim 4 wherein the whey protein is hydrolyzed and the protein source further comprises arginine, tyrosine and histidine.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein the whey protein is hydrolyzed whey protein.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of Claim 6 wherein the hydrolyzed whey protein contains less than about 5% by weight of free amino acids, about 15% to about 55% by weight of peptides having a molecular weight of less than 1000 Da, about 20% to about 55% by weight of peptides having a molecular weight of 1000 Da to 5000 Da, and about 15% to about 35% by weight of peptides having a molecular weight of greater than 5000 Da.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein the protein source provides about 10% to about 20% of the energy of the nutritional composition.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein the nutritional composition further includes a lipid source which provides about 20% to about 50% of the energy of the nutritional composition, the lipid source comprising a mixture of medium chain and long chain fatty acids.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein the nutritional composition further includes a carbohydrate source which provides about 35% to about 65% of the energy of the nutritional composition.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method of Claim 2 wherein the protein source provides about 10% to about 20% of the energy of the nutritional composition.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method of Claim 2 wherein the nutritional composition further includes a lipid source which provides about 20% to about 50% of the energy of the nutritional composition, the lipid source comprising a mixture of medium chain and long chain fatty acids.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method of Claim 2 wherein the nutritional composition further includes a carbohydrate source which provides about 35% to about 65% of the energy of the nutritional composition.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method of Claim 3 wherein the protein source provides about 10% to about 20% of the energy of the nutritional composition.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method of Claim 3 wherein the nutritional composition further includes a lipid source which provides about 20% to about 50% of the energy of the nutritional composition, the lipid source comprising a mixture of medium chain and long chain fatty acids.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method of Claim 3 wherein the nutritional composition further includes a carbohydrate source which provides about 35% to about 65% of the energy of the nutritional composition.